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Week 45

November 5 - November 11, 2011



Those Were The Days

Nostalgic series returns to BBC One Northern Ireland



BBC

NORTHERN IRELAND

Programme Information



Mark Carruthers chairs Spotlight Special on BBC One NI, Tuesday, November 8 at 10.35pm

Putting the questions that matter to public figures. Spotlight Special, chaired by Mark Carruthers, debates the topics of the day with a studio audience and a panel of politicians. On BBC One Northern Ireland, Tuesday, November 8 at 10.35pm.



Sir Terry Pratchett chats to William Crawley on BBC Radio Ulster's The Book Programme

In The Book Programme this week, on Sunday, November 6 at 1.30pm, William Crawley is joined by best-selling award-winning author Sir Terry Pratchett, who has just published Snuff, the latest Discworld novel. William also looks at the new poetry collections from Carole Anne Duffy and Leontia Flynn, and Michael Longley decides what he will choose as his Great Ulster Book.

New this week

Those Were The Days

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BBC Northern Ireland's rich television archives have been delved into once again as Those Were The Days returns for a second series

Scahldies Up The Chimley

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Scahldies Up The Chimley takes BBC Radio Ulster listeners back to the months after the Belfast Blitz and the experiences of a group of evacuees from the city as they adjust to life away from home in the safety of the country

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A new Saturday night series, The Studio Sessions; the conclusion of a 10-part serialisation of Bram Stoker's timeless classic Dracula and 'fresh' from the New York Marathon the previous day, Gerry Anderson will be broadcasting his BBC Radio Ulster programme live from Manhattan on Monday, November 7

Those Were The Days

Nostalgic series returns to BBC One Northern Ireland

Those Were The Days, BBC One NI, Monday, November 7 at 10.35pm



When he was at the height of his fame playing Dr Who in 1978, Tom Baker came to Northern Ireland to visit schools

BBC Northern Ireland's rich television archives have been delved into once again as *Those Were The Days* returns for a second series to rediscover some of the magical moments from our past.

For more than half a century, BBC Northern Ireland's television cameras have captured the changing face of

everyday life here, from the good and bad times, to the big and small events. Returning for a new six-part series on BBC One NI on Monday, November 7 at 10.35pm, *Those Were The Days* reveals not only how life used to be, but how our past has shaped life in Northern Ireland today.

Each programme, through Richard Dormer's informed narration, evocative music and archive footage tells an intriguing social history.

"The archive research for series one threw up a wealth of gems from the BBC Northern Ireland archive, sparking ideas ideally suited to a second series", says the director of *Those Were The Days*, Brian Henry Martin of DoubleBand Films.

"We then focused on themes which resonate with all of us and reflect genuine change in the ways we have lived, worked and played in Northern Ireland over the last fifty years. These included education,



A young Stephen Nolan in 1988, representing his school in the BBC Northern Ireland game show All Square Quiz

entertainment and retail, the universal cornerstones of all our lives. It is very exciting to look back into more than 50 years of BBC Northern Ireland television.”

The programme themes in this series include: The changing face of education and youth culture; entertainment and how some performers responded to the challenges of technology, changing tastes and the Troubles; home life, from domestic bliss to some inferior interiors; travel and the Northern Ireland people who went off

to explore the world; and consumerism and the changing face of the high street here.

The series also hears from the ordinary people with extraordinary stories who appeared in the archive including; Conor McClelland and Campbell Mulholland, who in 1981 were two of the original twenty eight pupils of the first integrated school in Northern Ireland, Lagan College; Jackie Meehan from Ardoyne, who as a ten year old boy back in 1964 appeared in an amazing piece of film doing the twist in his

local church hall; and father and daughter Teddy and Mary Hawkins who in 1977 scaled the treacherous mountain of Alum Khu in Iran.

Contributors to this series include Wendy Austin, Brian D’Arcy John Bennett, Ralph McLean and Maggie Taggart.

Those Were The Days is a DoubleBand Films production for BBC Northern Ireland.

Scahldies Up The Chimley

BBC Radio Ulster play follows some young city evacuees adjusting to country life

Scahldies Up The Chimley, BBC Radio Ulster, Sunday, November 6, 4pm, bbc.co.uk/radioulster

Scahldies Up The Chimley takes BBC Radio Ulster listeners back to the months after the Belfast Blitz and the experiences of a group of evacuees from the city as they adjust to life away from home in the safety of the country.

For the children from the two-up two-downs of Belfast, it's another world.

Through snippets of letters home - with Ulster-Scots vocabulary - listeners discover rural Northern Ireland through their eyes, and hear about life in and around the farm.

As you'd expect from the pen of actor Dan Gordon, there's plenty of fun as well as



Dan Gordon, writer of Scahldies Up The Chimley for BBC Radio Ulster



Laura Hughes who takes part in Scahldies Up The Chimley on BBC Radio Ulster

heart wrenching moments as the children adjust to life away from their parents.

Nine-year-old Irene is thrilled with the lovely chirruping of "wee snaeburd scahldies up the chimley" (baby starlings) one of which falls down the "chimley" into her bedroom.

Young George however, isn't so enamoured with the smells his new home offers announcing: "It's stinkin' here". Nor is he amused to discover the bathroom arrangements exclaiming: "There isn't even a yard here!"

With tales of the Home Guard, poaching, baking and butter making, listeners are

reminded of the good times as well as the hardships and heartaches of life during the Second World War.

Scahldies Up The Chimley on BBC Radio Ulster, Sunday, November 6 at 4pm, is the third radio play in the Pat and Plain series, written by Dan Gordon and performed with a cast of children from local primary schools joined by actor Laura Hughes. The producer is Etta Halliday.

BBC Radio Ulster on 92-95FM & DAB digital radio, digital TV and online at bbc.co.uk/radioulster

On BBC Radio Ulster this week...



Niamh Costigan presents Studio Sessions on BBC Radio Ulster

The Studio Sessions

In the new Saturday night series, *The Studio Sessions*, Niamh Costigan gives listeners another chance to hear the best music sessions recorded at BBC Radio Ulster.

On BBC Radio Ulster at 00.05am on Saturday nights, newcomer Niamh introduces rock folk, country, jazz, traditional Irish and classical music performances from local and international artists.

Niamh says: "I'm a big music fan, and I have been lucky enough to mix some great live sessions here in the BBC Radio Ulster studios where I work, which is where I got the idea to bring all the best sessions we do into one programme. I've really enjoyed the opportunity to sift through the work of all the artists that have visited our studios recently, picking out the highlights. There's great variety and great quality in the pieces I have chosen for this series, all of them exclusive to BBC Radio Ulster. *Across The Line* and *BBC Introducing* have had some fantastic local acts in here lately, often in full-band sessions, and presenters like Gerry Anderson, Ralph McLean, Lynette Fay and Gerry Kelly are also great champions of live music on our station. You'll also hear the odd classical or jazz selection in there - it's a really eclectic mix that I'm sure listeners will enjoy - I can't wait to let them hear it."



Gillian Kearney and Michael Fassbender star in *Dracula* on BBC Radio Ulster

Dracula

BBC Radio Ulster concludes its 10-part serialisation of Bram Stoker's timeless classic *Dracula*.

First published in 1897, the Irish author's epic novel about the Transylvanian Count is regarded as the best gothic horror novel of all time and has never been out of print.

Originally recorded in 2003, this dramatisation features acclaimed actors Michael Fassbender (*X-Men: First Class*, *Jane Eyre*, *Inglourious Basterds*, *Hunger*) as Jonathan Harker; James D'Arcy (*W.E.*, *Screwed*, *Master and Commander*) as Dr Seward; Gillian Kearney (*Casualty*, *Justice*, *The Forsyte Saga*) as Mina Murray and James Greene (*Merlin*, *Sherlock Holmes*) as Dr Van Helsing.

In these final two programmes, on Monday, November 7 and Tuesday, November 8 at 11.45pm, Jonathan, Van Helsing, Dr. Seward and Mina journey to Transylvania to come face-to-face with the Vampire King.



Gerry Anderson broadcasts his BBC Radio Ulster programme live from Manhattan - the day after running the New York Marathon

Gerry in New York

'Fresh' from the New York Marathon the previous day, Gerry Anderson will be broadcasting his BBC Radio Ulster programme live from Manhattan on Monday, November 7 from 10.30am-12pm. Will he have completed the 26.5 miles? Will he be presenting his show with this feet up on the desk as normal, or will they be in a bucket of ice. Will Sean Coyle have cheered him on or tripped him up? All will be revealed in this special live Stateside broadcast.

Looking forward to his marathon challenge, Gerry says: "I'm looking forward to visiting a local oxygen tent about two thirds into the race. If I can avoid that I will probably set an all-time Marathon record for a BBC Radio Ulster presenter with legs that don't match."